

# MORNING APPEAL.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1878

## ROVER MEETS HIS DOOM.

The celebrated Rover case came to a termination yesterday by the hanging of the defendant. He added to the doubt entertained of his guilt by stoutly maintaining his innocence to the very last. Unless he has left behind him some attainable evidence attested by his own hand of his guilt, this awful doubt will never fade away. The story has been many times repeated; but we will reproduce its outlines. J. W. Rover and E. J. McWorthy became associated in the Sulphur mining business in Humboldt County in the spring of 1875—nearly three years ago. In the first instance Rover tried to effect a trade with McWorthy whereby he would have a man named Wright might sell out their mine to McWorthy. His project fell through. Then McWorthy located the Rabbit Hole mine, for himself, leaving Rover out. After a little McWorthy went to California and on his return brought with him the man who was subsequently murdered, L. N. Sharp. These three all worked the Rabbit Hole mine for some days; and it is stated that Sharp quit the mine rather than work alone there with Rover. However this may be, Rover got Sharp to purchase him a pair of boots at Mill City. Subsequent to this purchase by Sharp of a pair of boots for Rover, Sharp was sent to the camp where Rover was alone, McWorthy and a man named Osborne being some four miles distant at a spring. That night they were rejoined by Rover who reported that Sharp was out in the hills hunting his horse. This was on or about the 8th of April 1875. About a week afterward, namely on or about the 15th or 16th of April, the remains of Sharp were found, here a part of the body and there a leg, here the skull and there other parts, all buried in ore sacks. In the week or more that had elapsed between the day that Sharp was missed and the day that his mutilated remains were found, Rover and McWorthy slept together at the camp of the sulphur mine where also they dug out the ore and sacked it. After suspicion was aroused against Rover, some of Sharp's bloody clothes were found, dug up, no doubt, by some prowling wild beast. This led to the arrest of Rover who was taken by the Sheriff to the canyon where the remains were buried. At the freshly dug places where the remains of the murdered man were found, were boot tracks corresponding to the impression made by the new boots purchased by Sharp for Rover. This is the case, in a nutshell. In all the four trials which ensued, Rover testified in his own behalf. He swore he saw McWorthy commit the murder. It is to be further stated that in at least one of the trials McWorthy went to the expense of employing counsel to prosecute Rover. Rover was twice tried in Humboldt county, getting a new trial after each conviction there, upon appeal to the Supreme Court. The venue was then changed to Washoe county; and in the first trial the jury failed to agree. He suffered death yesterday, upon the conviction found against him at his second trial in that county. So it happens that as many as four juries sat upon his case. Our readers have already been informed of the efforts lately attempted to procure from the Pardoning Board a commutation of Rover's sentence. As to the last efforts made to save his life, we are informed as follows by the Reno Journal of yesterday:

Under Sec. 458 of the Criminal Practice Act it is made possible for the Sheriff, with the concurrence of the Judge, to summon a jury of twelve persons to inquire into the supposed insanity of any man under judgment of death. Last night this law was invoked for the aid of Rover, and the following gentlemen constituted the jury: J. C. Lewis, J. K. Everett, R. W. Ash, H. Toombs, Frank Bell, J. S. Shoemaker, E. A. Vesey, H. W. Higgins, L. L. Crockett, and Wm. Duck. At 7:30 o'clock the court house was crowded with an interested throng of spectators. M. S. Bonfield, attorney for Rover, asked an adjournment for half an hour, in order to get his testimony and witnesses ready. The jury granted it. This is quite an unusual proceeding, and the law appears to be that the Court cannot interfere, no challenges interposed, and the twelve men summoned by the Sheriff must act and are alone responsible.

After the reconvoction Dr. Bishop was called, sworn, and testified and interrogated by Gen. R. M. Clarke. The doctor testified generally that he did not believe Rover's mind well balanced; thought that the effect of the strain upon him during three years' imprisonment tended to insanity, and that taking all acts and circumstances into consideration, he believed that Rover was of unsound mind, and ought to be sent to the Insane Asylum. Finally it was shown by cross-examination that Rover had told Bishop and Dawson that if they would tell him how to act he would try the insanity dodge.

### THE EXECUTION.

It is needless to say that the editor of the MORNING APPEAL neither attended the execution himself nor asked anybody else to represent his paper. We have a horror of capital punishments; we do not believe they ever do any good; we believe they do a great deal of harm; and in the present instance the horrid misgiving still remains that an innocent man has been hanged.

It remains to be said that the jury of Lunacy could agree. Seven were of the opinion that Rover was sane; the other five believed him of unsound mind. The impossibility of the jury's agreeing was made known shortly after noon. At 2:40 P. M. the drop fell and Rover was put to death. The Gold Hill News

of last evening pictures the last dreadful scenes as follows:

When he ascended the scaffold he was so weak that it was necessary for two men to support him. He was preceded by Fathers Lott and Torney. The death warrant was read by Deputy Sheriff Chamberlain. It occupied twenty minutes. During the reading Rover whispered from time to time to his attending priests and retained his composure. At the end he was given a drink of brandy, which he drank off.

### THE LAST WORDS.

He said: Gentlemen—I have nothing much to say. I am so prostrated by this long prosecution, that I am unable to say what I want to say. I have never done anything wrong intentionally. I have what I thought right and just, and I am to be punished for it. I have used my exertions to explain everything, but I was subdued by my counsel. I never did anything wrong in my life.

### I NEVER COMMITTED THAT MURDER.

Gentlemen, I came to California in the spring of 1850, and I have done as much as any man living in bringing that State to her present prosperity.

He then reiterated the story of the indictment and trial, as given to our reporter this morning. He became really eloquent, at times using good English, and after a short time was strong enough to stand alone. Towards the close he became quite frantic, charging McWorthy with committing five murders besides that of L. N. Sharp. "Gentlemen, McWorthy has got away, but if I had my liberty, the face of the world would not be large enough to hide him. I would search him out and bring him to justice, and if the law could not reach him I would find a

### STRONG ARM OF JUSTICE.

That would reach him." In conclusion, he said: "I have ignored all religions except the Roman Catholic church, and that I hold to be the only true and perfect faith. I forgive all my enemies and ask their forgiveness. Well, gentlemen, I bid you all good bye. I may meet you in the other world. I have been branded as a murderer all over the country, but

### I CALL ALMIGHTY GOD.

To witness my innocence. I must be hung; you will be sorry for it some day, but what good will that do me when I am dead and gone! Good bye. My heart is with you."

### LAST SCENE OF ALL.

He spoke exactly 54 minutes. After taking a drink of water, he kissed the crucifix on his neck. As his limbs were being pinioned he groaned, and said feebly: "Oh, gentlemen, I cannot realize that I am to be hung." He became so weak that he could not stand. He asked Dr. Bergman to step up on the scaffold and asked him to see what had become of the sulphur mine, and give the control of it to his father, Henry Rover, of 135 West Third street, New York. He then asked to see Mr. Bonfield, his attorney, who went upon the scaffold. After saying again, "Not guilty," he said to the Sheriff, "Go on and do your duty." The noose was fixed, and the black cap drawn over his head, the drop sprung at 10 minutes to 3 o'clock, and Rover fell his allotted six feet. His neck was broken and death was instantaneous.

### LOST.

On Sunday Feb. 17, between the State Capitol Building and the Episcopal Church a pair of gold bowed spectacles. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving them at this office.

NEW UNIFORMS.—Owing to a press of matter yesterday we were unable to give the Carson Guards as full a notice as we wished. Night before last they were ordered to drill and all the members of the company promptly responded. The new uniforms were worn for the first time and the boys looked splendidly in them, they are a fine looking set of fellows. By the way, a large number of citizens and friends of the company attended the drill and almost assumed the greatness and importance of a dress parade. The boys went through their passes and manual like veterans and are to be congratulated on their proficiency. The uniforms are very neat. The coat is dark blue with light facings, resplendent with gilt buttons. Good fits too. The cap is the regulation pattern with a blue and white plume. The boys are naturally proud of the outfit. They were busy all day yesterday marking the garments and arranging their little closets.

FROM THE LAKE.—Last night at 9 o'clock Capt. Avery and Messrs. Abbott and Cramer arrived from Lake Tahoe on snow shoes. They left Glenbrook in the morning at 11 o'clock, consuming ten hours in making the trip. Capt. Avery reports that there are fifty feet of snow at the railroad tunnel, and in many places from twenty to thirty feet of the beautiful. Andy Wright and Cy. Hawkins are still at the Flume Camp, with a team where they have been for the last week, and there is no telling when they will be able to get out with the wagon.

THE SULZBERGER CASE.—In the case of Sulzberger for the killing of Doran in Seven Mile Canyon, near Virginia City, the second trial being on, the jury yesterday morning at 10 o'clock announced that they were unable to agree. They stood ten for acquittal and two for manslaughter.

BULLION.—Received per Southern stage by Wells Fargo & Co., two bars of bullion from the Northern Belle mine valued at \$3313.60 and one from Columbus valued at \$1336.86.

### PHARMACEUTICAL.

THE TOWN is healthy. The sanitary condition is all that the most fastidious of the medical profession could desire. This, we are informed, is owing to the purity of the drugs, medicines, fancy articles, perfumery, powder, pomatum, and peculiar article of improved pills furnished by O. Potbury Willis, at the old stand opposite the Capitol, and at the corner of King and Carson streets; which, it is generally understood, every one understands where it is, and it is only necessary to keep up the general run of the healthy condition of the general nervous system, or any other system, to keep on patronizing Willis. Everything in the drug line can be procured at the shortest notice and on the most reasonable terms.

## THE CASE OF PIERCE.

The recent strain of unwholesome excitement over the poor wretch who suffered death on the scaffold, at Reno, has brought up the general subject of homicide and kindred topics. Quite naturally the notorious case of Pierce, the slayer of Wilson, has come up for comment and discussion. And quite as much a matter of course everybody's memory is at fault. One generally well informed citizen insisted that Pierce had been sentenced to be hanged, but that he obtained a new trial because the Judge extended the time within which the execution should take place, beyond the sixty-day limit. There were other conjectures, guesses and mis-remembrances all quite as wild. Now here are some of the facts: Pierce killed Geo. Wilson in his, Pierce's Saloon, (where Dolph Shane is now holding forth), on the morning of Sept. 13 1872. The coroner's inquest which followed was conducted by R. R. Parkinson, then a Justice of the Peace for this Township. In the November next succeeding, a Grand Jury of which Mr. A. B. Driesbach was the foreman, found an indictment against Pierce. Clayton & Davies were Pierce's lawyers. On the 12th of November a motion was made for a change of venue and refused. The trial was set for Nov. 18, and on that day, it being found impossible to find a jury in this county (after exhausting a venire of nearly eighty and only obtaining two jurors), a change of venue was granted to Douglas county. In December 1872 Pierce was tried before the District Court for Douglas county and found guilty of murder in the Second Degree. He broke jail and escaped to California before the sentence of the Court was passed upon him. He was rearrested at Salinas, Monterey county in that State, on information lodged with the late L. P. Dyer; and was brought back here by Sheriff Swift, Jan. 6, 1873. While he was in the Ormsby county jail an effort was made to obtain his release from custody on the plea that he was not legally in custody, and a writ of habeas corpus was sued out of the Supreme Court. The effort was unsuccessful, and Pierce was sentenced in May 1873 to thirty years in the State Prison. The judgment of the nisi prius court was reversed for error in the Judge's charge; Pierce had another trial wherein the jury disagreed; and after another unsuccessful effort a nolle prosequi was entered. This, in brief is the Pierce case. He is a free man because of a flaw in the technique and for nothing else.

**GRAND INVITATION**  
MILITARY AND CIVIC BALL TO BE GIVEN BY  
**COMPANY F (CARSON GUARD),**  
At their Armory (Theater Hall), on  
**Friday Evening, Feb. 22, 1878,**  
**WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.**

**Executive Committee:**  
Capt. G. S. Morgan, Lieut. A. H. Stirling,  
Lieut. E. H. Oliver, Sergt. W. L. Taylor,  
Sergt. R. L. Duncan, Private A. Mills.

**Invitation Committee:**  
Lieut. A. H. Stirling, Sergt. R. L. Duncan,  
Sergt. S. J. Hodgkinson.

**Reception Committee:**  
Capt. G. S. Morgan, Lieut. A. H. Stirling,  
Private J. C. Bunker, Corp. J. E. Cheney.

**Floor Managers:**  
Lieut. E. H. Oliver, Corp. J. D. Laing,  
Private H. G. Parker, Private J. R. King.

**Floor Director:**  
SERGEANT S. J. HODGKINSON.

**Music by Prof. Cara's Band.**  
**Supper at the Ormsby House.**

CARRIAGES FREE, to and from the hall, can be secured by leaving orders at the Ormsby House or Benton's Stable.

**TICKETS. . . . \$3**  
Admitting Gentlemen and Ladies.

**GRAND CLEARING SALE**

**OF**  
**OUR ENTIRE STOCK**

**OF**  
**FALL AND WINTER GOODS!**

**REGARDLESS OF COST!**

**AS OUR MR. LEVY WILL LEAVE**  
For New York City

**To Purchase Our Complete Stock of**

**SPRING GOODS,**

Special Orders for Merchandise

**From the Eastern or European Market**

Will find prompt attention.

**MRS. J. SHEYER & CO.**

Carson, February 8, 1878.

**STRAYED.**  
**CAME TO MY RANCH ABOUT**

The 1st of June last.

A Chestnut-Red (Mare) Colt, about 15 hands high, with two white hind feet, a white star on forehead and branded N on left fore shoulder. The owner can have the same by proving property and paying charges.

At the Duffy Ranch, Warm Springs Road.  
February 19, 1878.

## ORMSBY HOUSE

CARSON CITY, NEVADA.

**J. T. PANTLIND, PROPRIETOR.**

THIS LONG ESTABLISHED and FAVORABLE Public House having passed into new hands and having been

Thoroughly Reconstructed Throughout

Is now conducted in all respects as a

**First Class Hotel.**

This means that

**THE TABLE**

Is the best table of food in the State of Nevada; that

**THE BAR**

Is the most complete and most fully stocked of any in the State.

**The Billiard Hall**

Is the finest in Western Nevada; and the service is equal to that of the best hotels in San Francisco.

Prices of food and room are regulated to suit the times.

JOHN T. PANTLIND, Proprietor.

Carson, January 1, 1878.

**MASON & CO.,**

IN CORBETT BLOCK,

CARSON CITY, NEVADA.

**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL**

DEALERS IN

**GROCERIES,**

Provisions,

Crockery,

Glassware,

Tinware,

Canned Fruits,

Butter,

Lard,

Grain,

Coal Oil

AND ALL ARTICLES USUALLY KEPT

—IN A—

**FIRST CLASS STORE**

Of the kind of mercantile business in which they are engaged.

Orders taken and Goods delivered

TO ANY PART OF THE CITY FREE OF CHARGE

Carson, day 5 1878

**MASON & CO.**

**JACOB TOBRINER,**

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC CIGARS,

PIPES,

SMOKERS' ARTICLES,

CUTLERY,

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

**ARLINGTON BLOCK,**

CARSON CITY, NEVADA.

**FANCY GOODS!**

BERLIN WOOLS,

YARNS,

PATTERNS, ETC.

**R. FRED. BROOKS,**

Bookseller, Stationer and General Newspaper Agent, and

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

Books, Stationery, Sheet Music, Watches, Jewelry, Spec-

tacles, Musical Instruments, Toys, Cutlery, Per-

fumery, Combs, Brushes, Scent, Cigars, Tobacco,

Meerschaum Pipes, Etc., Etc.

Just received, a new invoice of Guns, Pistols, and Ammu-

nition, of every description.

Daily and Weekly Enterprise, Virginia Chronicle, California

Newspapers, and Eastern Periodicals, Magazines, Etc.,

sent promptly to any part of the Coast, Eastern States or

Europe, at the lowest possible rates.

R. FRED. BROOKS, CARSON CITY, NEVADA.

Next door to the Carson Theater.

**JOHN C. FOX,**

—DEALER IN—

**WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVER-WARE,**

**PIANO FORTES,**

**Books, Stationery**

**TOYS, GUNS,**

**FISHING TACKLE,**

and NOTIONS.

Carson street, opposite the Capitol.

Carson, January 1, 1878.

## GILLSON & BARBER

Have on Hand and Offer for Sale a Large

and Well Selected Stock of

**GENERAL MERCHANDISE,**

WHICH WE OFFER AT AS LOW RATES

as any legitimate house in the trade can possibly

afford to sell and pay their honest debts.

Our Stock Consists in Part of

GROCERIES,

PROVISIONS,

BUTTER,

FLOUR,

GRAIN,

GROUND FEED,

CLOTHING,

LIQUORS,

Patent Medicines,

OILS,

PAINTS,

CROCKERY,

STOVES,

TINWARE,

HARDWARE

**BOOTS AND SHOES,**

Etc.....Etc.....Etc.

From our long experience in the business, and knowing

and appreciating the wants of our customers and the in-

habitants of this section of the country generally, we feel

**We Can Guarantee Satisfaction**

To all who may favor us with their patronage.

Give us a call and examine our stock and

prices before purchasing elsewhere.

**GILLSON & BARBER.**

Carson, October 6, 1877.

**NOTICE.**

**HAVING RENTED THE**

**PIONEER SOAP FACTORY,**

I will manufacture the best quality of

**Chemical Olive Soap, Sal Soda and**

**Washing Powders,**

And will supply the public on most reasonable terms

Carson, September 3, 1877.

**J. W. DUFFY**

**NEW DEPARTURE!**

**DOUBLE ATTRACTION!**

**Dry Goods,**

**Groceries,**

**Clothing.**

**EVERYTHING FOR EVERYBODY!**

**HARRIS BROTHERS**

Are at the old stand, and prepared to accommodate old

and new customers with good articles at low prices.

Carson, January 1, 1878.

**EXCHANGE ROTISSERIE.**

**M. CLESCOVICH,**

PROPRIETOR.

Northeast corner of Carson and Second Sts.

Family Entrance on Second street,

opposite the Ormsby House.

THIS WELL-KNOWN and LONG-ESTAB-

lished first-class Restaurant and Oyster Stand is kept

open from 5 o'clock A. M. until 2 A. M. The cooking and

all the facilities are unsurpassed by any establishment of

the kind, here or elsewhere.

Orders will receive prompt attention.

Mr. Clescovich will superintend personally.

July 7, 1877.

**THE ONLY ONE-PRICE STORE IN TOWN!**

**FRANK BOSKOWITZ**

DEALER IN

**MEN'S AND BOYS'**